Module Descriptor

Title	Commercial Law 1		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	
Code	LAWW08034	**SCQF Level**	Level 8
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Business and Creative Industries**		
Module Co-ordinator	Colin McFadyen		

Summary of Module

This module is the first of two Commercial Law modules forming the basis of the Scots Law LLB Foundation Programme.

This module is split into three broad parts, covering the following indicative content:

(i) Commercial relationships of agency

a. Introduction to background and basic concepts of agency, including: principals and agents; categories of agency (general/special); capacity; appointment (express/implied); and special cases (negotiorum gestio and mercantile agents)

b. The creation of an agency contract; the forms of authority (express, implied, apparent); and liability for going beyond authority

c. Duties on principals and agents, including: acting in good faith and fiduciary character; the exercise of reasonable care and skill; delegation; conflicts of interest; account-keeping; and remuneration

d. Issues relating to principals/agents and third parties (including contracts and liability); termination of agency (including completion of transaction, mutual agreement, death, insanity, bankruptcy, etc.); and indemnity

(ii) Commercial relationships of partnership

a. Introduction to background and basic concepts of partnership, including: brief historical development; the General, Limited, and Limited Liability Partnership; key differences between LLPs and companies and their benefits/disadvantages; registration, membership and dissolution of LLPs; and an overview of what is required in an LLP agreement (e.g., management, voting procedures, membership changes, profit distribution, etc.)

b. Detailed discussion of partnerships, including: restrictions on who can be a partner; names and legal personality of firms; partnership property; partnership agreements and internal management procedures; partnership and agency; unauthorised transactions, liability of the firm, and rights, duties and liabilities of partners; termination/dissolution of a partnership; and pros and cons of a partnership

(iii) Commercial transactions of sale and supply of goods and insurance

a. Contracts of sale to businesses, including: implied terms; transfer of property/risk; breaches and remedies; and key legislation Contracts of sale to consumers, including: key legislation, consumer contracts regulations, etc.; as well as consumer credit/finance (including hire purchase, loans/credit cards, mortgages, etc, and the associated regulatory

bodies and frameworks relating to obligations/protections for consumers, and the obligations, rights and liability of creditors).

b. Securities including lien, pledge, hypothec, floating charges, and cautionary obligations

c. Insurance law, covering key legislation, and concepts including: types of insurance contracts and insurable interest; creation/renewal, premiums; duration, cancellation and void/voidable insurance contracts; good faith, fair presentation, and transparency; warranties and other terms; contracting-out; denial of claims; and damages for late payment.

Across the course the above material will be placed in historical and present context and there will be extended consideration of relevant statute and case law.

The module will adopt a blended means of delivery whereby students will be expected to attend lectures and participate in in-person workshops supplemented by a range of online teaching materials. Lectures (1 hour) and workshops (2 hours) will be delivered weekly covering all of the topics. Students are expected to prepare for the workshops through attendance at the relevant lecture and engagement with the online teaching materials. In the workshops students will engage in active learning through a range of problem-solving activities and engage in critical debate on the topics being explored.

Module Delivery Method	**On-Campus**[1] ☒	**Hybrid**[2] ☐	**Online**[3] ☐	**Work -Based Learning**[4] ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☐ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	

Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☐	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☐
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Understand the legal principles pertaining to the creation, operation and termination of commercial relationships of agency and partnership, and the law surrounding commercial transactions of sale and supply of goods and insurance.
L2	Analyse and interpret the provisions of relevant legislation and case law.

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

L3	Develop reasoning skills and a capacity for independent study and learning through individual research and by participation in collective learning groups.
L4	Utilise learning resources, including electronic resources, to acquire knowledge and understanding of the law.
L5	

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 8** Demonstrate and/or work with: A knowledge of the scope, defining features, and main areas of commercial law. Awareness and understanding of some major current issues and specialisms.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 8** Apply knowledge, skills and understanding: In using a range of professional skills, techniques, practices and/or materials associated with commercial law, a few of which are advancedand/or complex. In carrying out routine lines of enquiry, development or investigation into professional level problems and issues.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 8** Undertake critical analysis, evaluation and/or synthesis of ideas, concepts, information and issues that are within the common understandings in commercial law.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 8** Use a wide range of routine skills and some advanced and specialised skills associated with commercial law, for example: Convey complex information to a range of audiences and for a range of purposes. Use a range of standard ICT applications to process and obtain data.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 8** Exercise autonomy and initiative in some activities at a professional level in practice or in commercial law. Take the lead on planning in familiar or defined contexts. Practise in ways that show awareness of own and others' roles, responsibilities and contributions when carrying out and evaluating tasks. Work, under guidance, with others to acquire an understanding of current professional practice.

Prerequisites	Module Code	Module Title
	Other	
Co-requisites	Module Code	Module Title

Learning and Teaching	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.	
Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	24
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	12
Independent Study	164
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: Black, Business Law in Scotland, W Green (latest edition) McGregor Commercial Law in Scotland. W Green (latest edition) Bennett, An Introduction to the Law of Partnership in Scotland, W Green (latest edition) Chan, A Practical Guide to Partnership Law in Scotland, Avizandum (latest edition)
(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time. **For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:** Attending timetabled teaching sessions, accessing course-related learning resources and complete and submit assessments on time.

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code.
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Accounting Finance Law**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	Accounting, Finance & Law
Moderator	Clive Mitchell
External Examiner	M Jones
Accreditation Details	Law Society of Scotland
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**
Changes / Version Number	1

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
In-person Written Examination (60%)
Assessment 2
Oral Presentation (40%)
Assessment 3
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
In-person Written Examination	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	60	2

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Oral Presentation	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	40	

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	2 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**
Updated MD template	21/10/2025	Samuel White